

STUDIES IN THE LIABEAE (ASTERACEAE). I.

A NEW SPECIES OF LIABUM FROM MEXICO.

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A series of Compositae collected in 1949 by Dr. H. E. Moore Jr. of Cornell University has proven to contain an unusually high percentage of undescribed species. Described here from this collection is a large and seemingly showy species of Liabum which we name after the collector.

Liabum moorei H. Robinson & R. D. Brettell, sp. nov.

Plantae frutescentes erectae usque ad 2 m altae paucae ramosae. Caules crassiusculi ad 9 mm diam. substriati juniores arachnoideo-tomentosi. Folia opposita, petiolis 2.5-3.0 cm longis basi vix latioribus, laminis late ovate rhomboideis 10-12 cm longis 6-8 cm latis integris basi breviter cuneatis prope basin triplinervis ad apicem distincte breviter acuminatis supra glabris subtus albo-lanuginoso-tomentosis. Inflorescentiae terminales corymbosae; pedicelli 2-4 cm longi breviter albotomentosi ad medium bi-bracteati. Capitula campanulata ad 2.0-2.2 cm longa 2.5-3.0 cm lata; squamae involucri ca. 40 extus albo-lanuginoso-tomentosae 4-5-seriatae breviter ovate vel lineari-lanceolatae ca. 5-20 mm longae ad 3 mm latae; receptacula plana glabra. Radii ca. 12 uniseriati, corollis ca. 25 mm longis minute setiferis. Flores discorum ca. 30; corollae flavae ca. 18 mm longae anguste infundibulares supra media dense minute setiferae, cellulis apicalibus setarum binis elongatis eglandulosis scleroidis; lobi ca. 5 mm longi lineares superne extus longe piliferi, pilis paucis longe tenuibus crispis; thecae antherarum ca. 6 mm longae, cellulis exothecialibus ovalis plerumque in extremis nodiferis; appendices oblongae 1 1/2 - 2 longiores quam latiores; rami stylarum elongati. Achaenia prismatica striata ca. 3.5 mm longa ca. 1 mm lata dense sericeo-hirsutula; carpodia breviter subcylindrica valde prominentia, cellulis minutis ca. 15-seriatis subquadratis; pappus setiformis bi-tri-seriatus, setis exterioribus vix distinctis paucis brevioribus, apicibus plerumque vix latioribus, cellulis apicalibus subacutis. Grana pollinis 40-50 μ diam.

Type: MEXICO: Guerrero: 36-38 kms. from Iquala on road to Teloloapan, streamside and slopes by Rio de los Sabinos near Los Sabinos. Shrub to 6' high. Flowers bright yellow. Leaves white below. 5 Nov. 1949. H.E. Moore, Jr. 5518 (HOLOTYPE US; ISOTYPE BH).

The presence of large heads and prominent rays distinguish the new species from all but Liabum andrieuxii (DC.) Benth. &

Hook.f. The new species is distinct from the latter by the lack of intermixed coarser hairs on the stems and petioles, by the essentially entire ovate leaf blades with white tomentum covering the complete undersurface including the veins, and by the more densely tomentose phyllaries with short pointed tips.